

# Education

President Bush has made a commitment to ensure that children in our Nation get the quality education they deserve. Through the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), signed into law by President Bush in January 2002, historic levels of funding and support have been combined with an unprecedented commitment to achieving high standards and accountability to ensure that America's schools are producing results for every child in America. The President's FY 2006 Budget reflects these goals.

## FY 2006 Budget Highlights

- Continues to seek significant increases for elementary and secondary education priorities such as Title I and Special Education to help schools implement No Child Left Behind and meet the needs of students with disabilities.
- Proposes a new High School Initiative to improve the quality of secondary school education and ensure that every student graduates from high school prepared to enter college or the workforce with the skills to succeed.
- Reforms Federal student aid programs by reducing unnecessary lender and guaranty agency subsidies and other program costs and by redirecting these funds to the Pell Grant program to help low-income students pay for college.
- Federal K-12 education funding rises 51 percent since 2001.

### ***No Child Left Behind:***

- The Budget increases funding for NCLB programs by \$976 million, or 4 percent over 2005 enacted levels.

### ***Title I and Special Education:***

- \$13.3 billion for Title I, an increase of \$603 million, to provide grants to improve education in low-income communities and support NCLB reforms, a total increase of \$4.6 billion, or 52 percent, since 2001; and
- \$11.1 billion for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) Grants to States, an increase of \$508 million, taking the total increase in Federal funding for IDEA grants to \$4.8 billion, or 75 percent, since 2001. Along with the new law's local flexibility provisions, grants will improve the State and local special education systems, align them with NCLB, and help improve achievement of students served by IDEA.

### ***Bringing NCLB to High Schools:***

- \$1.5 billion for the President's High School Initiative to extend No Child Left Behind reforms to high schools through improved testing and programs for at-risk youth. These funds include:
  - \$1.2 billion to help States implement a high school accountability framework and a wide range of interventions; and
  - \$250 million to help high schools implement testing in grades 9 through 11 in language arts and math.

- \$200 million, an increase of \$175 million – or eight times the 2005 level – to develop and implement Striving Readers, a research-based intervention that will improve the reading skills of high school students who read below grade level;
- \$120 million for a new secondary school math initiative within the \$269-million request for the Math-Science Partnership program;
- \$52 million, an increase of \$22 million, to make rigorous courses, such as those for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate, available to more low-income students.
- \$12 million to help States establish State Scholars programs that encourage students to complete a rigorous curriculum that includes at least three years of math and science, three-and-a-half years of social studies, four years of English, and two years of foreign-language courses; and
- \$22.5 million to support expansion of the National Assessment of Education Progress to ensure that all States participate in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade assessments in reading and mathematics in 2007, as called for by the President.

#### ***Teachers:***

- \$500 million for the new Teacher Incentive Fund to reward schools and teachers that close the achievement gap and attract high-quality teachers to high-need schools;
- \$2.9 billion for the Teacher Quality State Grants program to support teacher training and recruitment; and
- \$40 million for the Adjunct Teacher Corps initiative to create opportunities for professionals with extensive knowledge in the core academic subjects to teach in high-need middle and high schools.

#### ***Reading:***

- \$1.1 billion for Reading First and Early Reading First, the President's signature literacy programs, to help students in preschool and elementary school improve their reading skills and read at grade level by the end of third grade;

#### ***State Assessments:***

- \$412 million to help States implement current NCLB testing requirements;

#### ***School Choice:***

- \$50 million in new funding for the Choice Incentive Fund to support development of innovative school choice programs;
- \$219 million for Charter School Grants;
- \$37 million for Credit Enhancement for Charter School Facilities; and
- \$15 million through the District of Columbia budget for scholarships to help low-income students in Washington, D.C., attend higher-performing schools of their own choosing.

#### ***Higher Education:***

- A \$28-billion increase for student aid programs through 2015, including the retirement of the Pell Grant shortfall, additional benefits for student borrowers, and an increase in the maximum Pell award by \$500 over five years, helping more than 10 million needy students cover the costs of college. This reform package includes:

- A proposal to increase the \$4,050 maximum award in the Pell Grant program by \$100 in 2006 and \$500 over five years, lifting the maximum award to \$4,550;
  - The retirement of the \$4.3 billion Pell Grant shortfall, which has been a major obstacle preventing increased awards for the more than five million Pell-eligible students;
  - A savings of \$34 billion through 2015 by reforming the student-loan programs. These reforms include reducing unnecessary subsidies and payments to lenders, guaranty agencies, and loan consolidators and placing a larger share of the loan risks on lenders; and
  - Overall deficit reduction savings of \$10.1 billion through 2015 (consists of paying off the \$4.3 billion Pell shortfall and \$5.8 billion in additional deficit reduction).
- \$125 million to establish a new Community College Access Grants program designed to boost college enrollment and completion, in particular among low-income students;
  - \$299 million for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and \$96 million for Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs). The request fulfills the President's pledge to increase funding for these programs by 30 percent;
  - \$10 million for a new program to provide loans for individuals to pay for short-term training programs. This investment will provide \$284 million in loan volume in 2006 to help an estimated 377,000 individuals acquire new job skills; and
  - \$50 million for a new President's Math and Science Scholars Fund, a public-private partnership to award additional grants of up to \$5,000 each to low-income college students eligible for Pell Grants.